

SECRET SESSIONS OUGHT RESULTS

Police Commissioners De-
fend Star Chamber Methods

ONLY WAY TO GET EVIDENCE

Alexandria Officials Conducting Inquiry
Tell Why Doors Are Closed
to the Public.

WASHINGTON TIMES BUREAU,
ALEXANDRIA, VA., MAY 5.

"Are you in favor of conducting the sessions of the police board behind closed doors, and if so will you state your reasons?" was the question put to the mayor and each member of the board of police commissioners by a reporter for The Times today.

Mayor Paff replied that his reason for desiring the meetings to be secret was "that the commissioners could not get evidence if they made the previous evidence public. In so far as public opinion is concerned," said the mayor, "I feel that the citizens of this city will be perfectly satisfied with our work when they hear the results."

Commissioner Graham stated that in his opinion the meetings should be secret because the investigation of the commissioners was being conducted along the lines of a grand jury, and if one policeman heard the evidence given by another he would not be as ready to admit facts.

Effect of Testimony on Others.

The commissioners had decided to put the youngest officers, or those that had been on the force the shortest time, on the stand first because they were not "up to snuff" as the older officers, and they might tell some things which the others would not. "As it was," continued Mr. Graham, "the publication in The Times of Policeman Jones' statement that the policeman had been in Harrison's stable at night, resulted in all the officers confessing to this charge."

"Do you think that if the publication had not been denied this charge?" Mr. Graham was asked.

"No, I cannot say that," he replied. Commissioner Hill stated that he did not want to be quoted as saying anything in regard to the secret sessions, but that he thought "for the benefit of the department the meetings should be secret." Asked why the reporters had been admitted to the meetings, he asked to refrain from publishing all the proceedings. Mr. Hill stated that he did not know that the reporter had better see the mayor about this.

Same as a Grand Jury.

Commissioner Fisher said: "I cannot tell you the reasons just now why the commissioners do not want the meeting open. We have good reasons, though, and when the investigation is over you will see that we did right in not opening the doors. The commissioners made a mistake in opening the doors to the reporters. We are conducting this investigation the same as a grand jury, and it would not do to let everything that transpires in the meeting be known."

Commissioner Ohlert said: "You can just say that we have our own reasons."

The Times reporter visited the mayor's office last night, and after interviewing one or two members of the board, the meeting was about to be called to order, asked the mayor if he might remain. No, no, said the mayor.

Proceedings Last Night.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Paff with Commissioners Hill, Fisher and Ohlert. After the board had been in session about fifteen minutes Commissioner Hill was called away and did not return.

Policeman Betts gave a detailed account of his service on the force. He stated that he had made a number of arrests for the violation of the city ordinances in relation to the disposal of ashes and obstructing the sidewalks. During his time of service as station-keeper he always did his duty. He told of how affairs were managed around the station house and thought that the police force was in a good condition.

Policeman Young said he always tried to do his duty to the best of his ability. When questioned in regard to a telephone message received at the station house, in the early part of April, about a woman being out near the summer street, he stated that he received the message and told the persons at the other end of the telephone that an officer would come out at once.

He had to put some prisoners back in their cells and after doing this, he called to the captain that he was going out to attend to the cutting of the man who was on the beat in which the woman was, he told him to go.

The man who did the cutting was fined in the police court the next morning.

Made Plenty of Arrests.

Policeman Knight stated that he had done his duty and had made a large number of arrests, as the court records would show.

Policeman Gill testified that he had been on duty at the station house for a number of years, but that he had never seen a book kept of the lost or stolen articles. The entry was made on a slip of paper and put in an envelope in the drawer in the headquarters.

Policeman Roberts was summoned to appear on bail pending an application for a new trial, was secretly married a few weeks after Judge Thomas, of the United States circuit court, had passed judgment upon him. The captain and his bride are now living on the Van Schick farm near New Amsterdam, N. Y.

The bride of Captain Van Schick was Miss Grace Gray Spratt, of this city, who is said to be an exceedingly good-looking young woman, several years the junior of her husband.

THE BUSINESS SECTION VISITED BY BIG FIRE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 5.—The Commerce building, on Gay street, near Vine avenue, today is a smoldering ruin, and the loss is \$300,000. The fire started at midnight, and at 2:40 it was beyond control.

Several adjoining houses were damaged. The fire department was unable to do effective work.

Italian Strikers Cause Wild Riot in Passaic

Charged and Mowed Down by Mob After Having Mortally Wounded Policemen Sent to Quell Disturbance Started by Them.

PASSAIC, N. J., May 5.—Wild riot broke out in Passaic at 8 o'clock this morning, when 300 striking Italian laborers charged with stones and clubs twenty-five non-union men working on a building in Central avenue.

Five policemen who responded to hurry calls for assistance were disarmed of clubs and revolvers, knocked down, and trampled on. Policeman Gustav Schmidt is dying in the general hospital with fractured skull. Sergt. Matthews Kelly was knocked unconscious and badly done up.

PUBLIC PRINTER WANTS WAHNETAS INVESTIGATED

Alleged Inside Organization at Government Printing Office Said to Be Fomenting Disturbances.

An investigation into the operations of an alleged "inside" organization in the Government Printing Office known as the Wahnetas has been ordered by Public Printer Stillings.

There was a large-sized commotion in the office yesterday when it became known that certain representatives of the inspection division had been instructed to get all information possible bearing on the scope and purposes of the alleged organization have been approached and requested to make a statement for the use of the inspection division.

While the investigation being made by the inspection division has served to excite a number of the employees, it is not apparent what interest the officials of the office could have in the matter, even if it is ascertained that the order is still in existence, as its purposes are alleged to have been foreign to the Government Printing Office.

WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL INCREASES RELIEF FUND

Money for Sufferers on the Coast Has Now Reached an Encouraging Amount.

The fund raised by pupils of Western High School for the relief of the California sufferers now amounts to \$33.25, and as a few more subscriptions are expected Monday, it is probable the total will be something over \$50. The benefit concert given at the school yesterday afternoon was very successful.

Those taking part in the entertainment were Miss Marie von Unschuld, Mrs. William Keys Miller, and Augustus Hazard Swan.

BANCROFT COUNCIL VOTES MONEY FOR SAN FRANCISCO

Bancroft Council, No. 468, National Union, held its regular monthly meeting at 54 Ninth street northwest last evening. After routine business the council was entertained with speeches by Charles T. Miller and P. M. Kennedy, members of the District committee.

An appropriation of \$10 was voted to the San Francisco sufferers. H. H. Martin was elected delegate to the assembly which meets in June at Scottish Rite Hall.

BACHELORS TO SUPPORT AT LEAST ONE ORPHAN

CHICAGO, Ill., May 5.—That bachelors should be compelled to support dependent children in public institutions was the position taken by Mrs. Abbie S. Shoen, a well-known leader in women's clubs, in an address to the Dickens Club, said Mrs. Shoen.

"If I had the framing of a law for the taxation of bachelors I would have each taxed for the maintenance of a child now being cared for by an institution or by the State.

"Not only would I have that child educated, clothed, and fed at his expense, but under the cutting of the law I would have him brought into direct personal contact with the child."

ALEXANDRIA NEWS NOTES

WASHINGTON TIMES BUREAU,
ALEXANDRIA, VA., MAY 5.

An alarm of fire was sounded about 8:30 o'clock this morning for a blaze in the house of John Davis, 1208 Prince street. A gasoline stove led to the accident, and John Davis, Jr., was badly burned. He was taken to the Alexandria Hospital. The fire was put out with extinguishers.

BURIAL OF MISS CIVALIER.

The funeral of the late Miss Myra Lee Civalier took place from Christ Protestant Episcopal Church today. The Rev. William T. Morton, conducted the services. Interment was in Ivy Hill cemetery.

POLICE COURT NIGHT SESSION.

Police Justice Caton held a special session of the police court last night and tried the following cases:

Ernest Page, arrested by Policemen Knight and Lyles, on the charge of stealing rope from John Alexander, was fined \$5.

Allen Bell, colored, arrested by Policemen Knight and Lyles, on the charge of stealing a keg of beer from Owen Nugent, was fined \$10.

Benjamin Water and John Ford, arrested by Policemen Jones on the charge of torturing horses, were fined \$250 each.

Mamie Jackson, colored, arrested by Policemen Knight on the charge of disorderly conduct, was fined \$5.

BAPTISM AND COMMUNION.

There will be baptism at the Liberty Baptist church, in North Alfred street, this city tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock. Communion will be held at 7:30 in the evening.

CITIZENS DIVIDE ON STREET EXTENSION

Brooklanders Unable to Agree on Old Question.

AGAINST "JIM CROW" CARS

Claimed That Doubling Up Would Make Worse a Service Already Bad.

Discussion of the feasibility of extending Monroe street, and consideration of the street car service, took up the time of the Brookland citizens at their meeting in the town hall last night. This is the third time the extension question has come up and as heretofore it met with strenuous opposition.

President Kinnan, as chairman of the committee on extension, stated that most of the opposition was due to the fact that the citizens believed it would cost too vast a deal of money, but in fact the cost of the proposed improvement would be only \$10 for a fifty-foot extension up and as heretofore it met with strenuous opposition.

Claims Extension Is Illegal.

John McPhaul objected to the proposed extension on the ground that it was illegal; that the action of the jury on assessment is uncertain, and because the cars would run by a school attended by four of his children.

As chairman of the committee on legislation, Mr. McPhaul reported on House bill 124, which gives the District Commissioners the right to regulate the car service. The bill was indorsed by the citizens.

"Jim Crow" Proposition Laid Aside.

"Jim Crow" cars are wanted by some members of the association, but when the Brooklanders were asked last night to indorse Representative Hefflin's bill now pending they refused. The Brookland cars are not used much by colored persons, and if separate cars were run for colored persons, such a system would make it necessary for the whites to wait or wait for every other car. The service is already bad enough, it is claimed.

The communication from the Capital Heights Citizens in which the latter asked that the bill be indorsed, was referred to a committee.

Want Policemen Kept on Duty.

Because of the number of assaults and robberies in other sections of the city it is feared Major Sylvester will take away the policemen stationed at the Bunker Hill road railroad crossing. Anticipating this, the Brooklanders pointed out a committee to request the Commissioners to keep the policemen stationed at the crossing.



Dilation of the Stomach

The gravity of enlargement of the stomach cannot be overestimated. One of the principal causes that produce this sign of condition is indurated eating and drinking. Weakness of the muscles that propel the food to the intestines is also a factor in allowing the food to accumulate in the stomach, and thus stretching it to enormous size. Constipation and inactivity of the liver is also a prominent cause.

In this condition you usually find a coated tongue, thirst, loss of appetite, morbid, oppression at the pit of the stomach, belching of food, gas, and vomiting of sour liquid, varying in amount. Weakness, paleness and want of energy are usually present.

Smith's Pineapple and Butternut Pills are usually present.

dangerous enlargement of the stomach and all its symptoms, take

SMITH'S Pineapple and Butternut PILLS

Nature's Laxative

to-day. They will give tone to the weak propelling muscles of the stomach and intestines. They produce a natural evacuation of the bowels, which, if retained, produces symptoms of self poisoning. Food long retained in the stomach and matter in the bowels show all the signs of putrefaction, when examined after the stomach pump is used, viz.: sour odor, bacteria, yeast, saccharine and organic acid, which are deleterious to the entire system.

Smith's Pineapple and Butternut Pills cure constipation as if by magic. They regulate the functions of the liver, cleanse the poisons from the blood, remove the bilious elements from the circulation and strengthen the nerves. If your eyes are clouded without an appreciable cause, if you have specks and floating objects before your vision, use Smith's Pineapple and Butternut Pills and get the poisonous elements out of your blood. These Little Vegetable Pills

Cure Constipation, Biliousness and Sick Headache in one night. Price only 25 cents at all dealers.

Don't Miss This Chance.

A full set of S. S. White's or Sibley's Best Teeth for \$5. Guaranteed for 10 years. VERO DENTISTS, 1115 Pa. Ave. Next door to Raleigh Hotel.

BARNES CONFIRMATION AFTER THE RATE BILL

Senator Tillman Determined to Have Inquiry Proceedings Follow Consideration of Other Matter.

The confirmation of Benjamin F. Barnes as postmaster for the District of Columbia will not be called until after the rate bill has been disposed of by the Senate.

Senator Tillman's resolution of inquiry into the local police department's connection with the Mrs. Morris case is in abeyance as yet. Mr. Tillman wants to make a speech upon the case, but he does not desire to sidetrack the rate question.

In executive session yesterday afternoon Senator Carter made an effort to have a date set for a vote on the nomination, but Mr. Tillman was determined in his determination to have the case take its regular course. He gave notice that he would not agree to any arrangement to settle the matter until he had succeeded in bringing out all facts connected with the subject of Mrs. Morris.

The Senate spent more than one-half hour on the case in executive session. Nothing was accomplished, though it was indicated that as soon as there was an opening the Senate's indulgence in open session would be tried on the amendment to the Senate bill to amend the law relating to the conditions. Mr. Carter and other Republicans will probably answer him.

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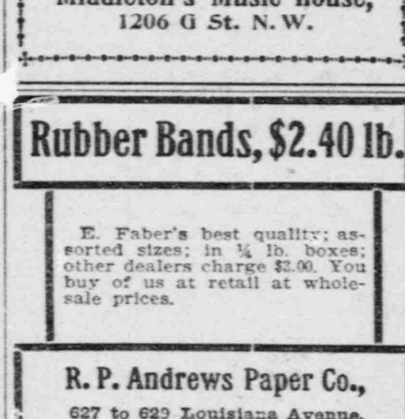
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Cascarets are the 'Incomparable' foe of All Disease Germs; the incomparable cleanser, purifier and strengthener of the entire Digestive Canal.

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By J. HARTLEY MANNERS.

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Expert in the treatment of private diseases, chronic and acute. Both sexes. All consultations confidential. Medicine furnished. Prices moderate. Hours, 9 to 1, 3 to 6, 7 to 9. Rooms, 1232 Pennsylvania ave. n.w. Phone 34.

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WASHINGTON'S LEADING ACADEMY. and also residence, 6th and 12th. Thurs. and Sat. Evenings. Beginners' class, 7; reception, 8:45.

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